

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 TRSE-00 INT-05 GSA-02 AF-10 PA-02
PRS-01 USIA-15 FEA-01 FRB-01 CEA-01 OMB-01 OPIC-06
XMB-04 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 /104 W
-----130405 260423Z /13

R 251925Z OCT 77
FM AMCONSUL TORONTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6452
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

UNCLAS TORONTO 2651

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, EMIN, ELAB, PLOS, SOPN, CA
SUBJ: SUDBURY MINE CUTBACKS FAN POLITICAL FIRES

REF: TORONTO 2637

1. WITH BACKGROUND MOVEMENTS SUCH AS PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU'S MUSINGS ON THE NEED FOR A NICKEL CARTEL AND THE GOC'S CONSIDERATION OF ALLEGED NICKEL DUMPING BY A US FIRM AS THE GOUNDS FOR COMPLAINT TO GATT, THE PLANNED CUTBACKS AT THE INCO LTD. NICKEL MINES IN SUDBURY DOMINATED BOTH MEDIA AND POLITICAL ACTIVITY OVER THE WEEKEND.

2. THE SUNDAY SUN OCTOBER 23 EDITORIALIZED IN "SUDBURY TRAGEDY" THAT THE NICKEL SITUATION REFLECTS THE NEED FOR CANADIANS TO START PULLING TOGETHER TO BECOME MORE COMPETITIVE BUT THAT THE BASIC CAUSES OF THE LAYOFFS ARE BEYOND ANY GOVERNMENT'S ACTION. THE TORONTO STAR OCTOBER 24 CALLED FOR AN INQUIRY TO DETERMINE IF THE LAYOFFS ARE NECESSARY. THE EDITORIAL SLAPPED AT THE ADVOCATES OF NATIONALIZATION AND STOCKPILING, AT TRUDEAU'S CARTEL SUGGESTION AND AT THE STEELWORKERS UNION'S REFUSAL TO CONSIDER WORK SHARING TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF LAYOFFS.

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3. THE ONTARIO LEGISLATURE DEVOTED A GREAT DEAL OF TIME TO ISSUE OCTOBER 21 AND 24. OPPOSITION LIBERAL LEADER SMITH ADVOCATED PROVINCE FORCE INCO FILL JAPANESE AND EUROPEAN ORDERS FROM SUDBURY RATHER THAN INDONESIAN AND GUATAMALAN OPERATIONS. THE NDP CALLED FOR NATIONALIZATION. THE TORY GOVERNMENT DESCRIBED THE LAYOFFS AS UNAVOIDABLE AS DICTATED BY WORLD MARKET CONDITIONS, CALLED

THE LACK OF CONSULTATION BY INCO WITH THE GOVERNMENT UNFORTUNATE AND SUGGESTED THE LEGISLATURE'S RESOURCE COMMITTEE MIGHT LOOK INTO MATTER

4. MEETINGS IN SUDBURY ATTRACTED NDP LEADERS BROADBENT ("WE MUST SET OUT THE STAGES TO ENSURE WE DEVELOP OUR RAW MATERIALS AT HOME"), LEWIS (DEMAND ONTARIO GOVERNMENT ORDER INCO RESCIND LAYOFF ORDER), LIBERAL MP FOR SUDBURY AND HOUSE SPEAKER JEROME (INCO SHOT "AN ARROW THROUGH THE HEART OF THE CITY") AND A HOST OF UNION LEADERS AND LESSER POLITICAL LIGHTS. WHILE RHETORIC WAS STRONG, TURNOUTS WERE REPORTED LESS THAN EXPECTED, A PHENOMENA CONSIDERED BY MEDIA TO REFLECT CONDITIONING OF MINING COMMUNITY TO TRADITIONAL BOOM-BUST CYCLE.

5. FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES, UNION LEADERS AND INCO EXECUTIVES ARE TO MEET THIS WEEK TO DISCUSS THE LAYOFFS AND ANY POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES. NEWSPAPER REPORTS INDICATE GREAT INTEREST BY OTHER MINE OPERATIONS IN EXPERIENCED SUDBURY MINERS, PARTICULARLY BY URANANIUM MINES AT ELLIOT LAKE, ONTARIO(95 KM AWAY) AND IN SASKATCHEWAN.
DIGGINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: TORONTO
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Image Path:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TORONTO 2637
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 798595
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUDBURY MINE CUTBACKS FAN POLITICAL FIRES
TAGS: PGOV, EMIN, ELAB, PLOS, SOPN, CA, INCO LTD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9707a827-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009